



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

Raised Bill No. 836

LCO No. 2836



Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Introduced by:
(VA)

***AN ACT CONCERNING MILITARY RECRUITER ACCESS TO
MILITARY RECORDS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 1-219 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2013*):

3 (a) As used in this section: (1) "Armed forces" means the Army,
4 Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard or Air Force of the United States; (2)
5 "veteran" means any person honorably discharged from, or released
6 under honorable conditions from active service or reserve status in the
7 armed forces; (3) "military discharge document" means a United States
8 Department of Defense form, including, but not limited to, a DD 214
9 form, or any valid paper that evidences the service, discharge or
10 retirement of a veteran from the armed forces that contains personal
11 information such as a service number or Social Security number; (4)
12 "military recruiter" means a member of the armed forces of the United
13 States, as defined in section 27-103, or of the Connecticut National
14 Guard whose primary job function, classification or specialty is
15 recruiting individuals to enlist with the armed forces of the United

16 States or the Connecticut National Guard; (5) "person" means any
17 individual or entity, including, but not limited to, a relative of a
18 veteran, a licensed funeral director or embalmer, an attorney-at-law, an
19 attorney-in-fact, an insurance company or a veterans' advocate; and
20 [(5)] (6) "public agency" or "agency" means a public agency, as defined
21 in section 1-200.

22 (b) A veteran or designee may file a military discharge document
23 with the town clerk of the town in which the veteran resides or with
24 any other public agency if the military discharge document is related
25 to the business of the town or other agency, and the town or agency
26 shall maintain and record the military discharge document in
27 accordance with this section.

28 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 55, or any provision of
29 section 11-8 or 11-8a, any military discharge document filed by or on
30 behalf of a veteran with a public agency before, on or after October 1,
31 2002, except a military discharge document recorded before October 1,
32 2002, on the land records of a town, shall be retained by the agency
33 separate and apart from the other records of the agency. The contents
34 of such document shall be confidential for at least seventy-five years
35 from the date the document is filed with the public agency, except that:

36 (1) The information contained in the document shall be available to
37 the veteran, or a conservator of the person of the veteran, or a
38 conservator of the estate of the veteran or a military recruiter, at all
39 times;

40 (2) Any information contained in such military discharge document
41 which is necessary to establish, or that aids in establishing, eligibility
42 for any local, state or federal benefit or program applied for by, or on
43 behalf of, the veteran, including, but not limited to, the name of the
44 veteran, the veteran's residential address, dates of qualifying active or
45 reserve military service, or military discharge status, shall be available
46 to the public at all times; and

47 (3) In addition to the information available under subdivision (2) of
48 this subsection, any other information contained in the document shall
49 be available to (A) any person who may provide a benefit to, or
50 acquire a benefit for, the veteran or the estate of the veteran, provided
51 the person needs the information to provide the benefit and submits
52 satisfactory evidence of such need to the agency, (B) the State Librarian
53 as required for the performance of his or her duties, and (C) a
54 genealogical society incorporated or authorized by the Secretary of the
55 State to do business or conduct affairs in this state or a member of such
56 genealogical society.

57 (d) The provisions of this section concerning the maintenance and
58 recording of Department of Defense documents shall not apply to the
59 State Library Board or the State Librarian.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	1-219
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Statement of Purpose:

To allow military recruiters to access military records that veterans file with town clerks or public agencies in order to facilitate recruiting for the armed forces of the United States and the Connecticut National Guard.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]